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TITLE: Method for optimizing pupil size using alpha antagonist

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INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Horn; Gerald	Deerfield	IL	60015	

US-CL-CURRENT: 514/385; 514/912

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating a human eye, comprising the steps of:

administering to a surface of a human eye a therapeutically effective amount of an imidazoline; and

allowing the imidazoline to reduce the human eye pupil diameter to a range from about 1 mm to about 5 mm in dim light.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the imidazoline is in an artificial tear formulation.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the eye is an unmedicated human eye.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the artificial tear formulation comprising the imidazoline is characterized by inducing a redness response in the unmedicated human eye of about 1+ or less on 4+ maximum scale.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the pupil diameter is reduced to a range of from about 3 mm to about 5 mm in dim light.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the eye is the eye of a human patient diagnosed with excessively large pupils in dim light.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the eye is the eye of a human patient suffering from poor quality of vision.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the eye is an eye of a human patient which is naturally excessively dilated as a result of response to dim light.

9. The method of claim 3, wherein the imidazoline is administered by contacting a contact lens with the artificial tear formulation comprising the imidazoline and applying the contact lens to the surface of the eye.

10. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the imidazoline is phentolamine.

11. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the imidazoline is tolamine.

12. A method of reducing the diameter of a pupil of an unmedicated human eye, comprising the steps of:

administering to the surface of the human eye an imidazoline; and

allowing the imidazoline to reduce the human eye pupil diameter to a range of from about 1 mm to about 5 mm in dim light.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the imidazoline is phentolamine.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the imidazoline is in an artificial tear formulation.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the administering is carried out every 24 hours.

16. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the administering is carried out every 48 hours.